



What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav!

Elders Shabbat—A Synaplex Event Friday, November 9—Saturday, November 10

Please join us for a full weekend in honor and celebration of the elders of our community. We encourage people of all ages to attend this event. Please check our website for further details on this event.

Transgender Remembrance Shabbat Plus Jay Michaelson on Saturday And a Community-wide Havdalah Friday, November 16—Saturday November 17

This Shabbat has something for everyone. At Friday night services we will remember all who have suffered from anti-transgender violence, with special liturgy, music, drash, and the reading of names. On Saturday afternoon, Jay Michaelson will lead a discussion on sex in a post-mythic age. That evening, we will join in an all-age community to explore how issues of diversity have impacted our personal journey towards Judaism (read more on page 13).

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Tuesday, November 20, 7:00 pm

Join with our neighborhood faith communities for a service of praise, prayer, and song from our many faith traditions. We invite you to join us as we give thanks for the many gifts in our lives. We will be collecting nonperishable food items (no glass please) so that we may donate to those in need.

World AIDS Day with CSZ Saturday, December 1, 10:00 am

In commemoration of World AIDS day, the international day of action on HIV and AIDS, CSZ's Saturday morning Shacharit Shabbat services

(continued on page 4)

Meet Cantor Sharon Bernstein



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is proud to announce that Sharon Bernstein has become our new part-time cantor. Cantor Bernstein, who grew up in Palo Alto, graduated from the H.L. Miller Cantorial School at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2003. She served as cantor at several LA congregations before going to the seminary, and has since served at Congregation Beth Shalom in San Francisco. As part of her application for the position at Sha'ar Zahav, she became an accredited member of the Reform Movement's American Conference of Cantors.

JGF: Most people who are into music don't become cantors. What persuaded you to become a cantor?

I fell into it. The seed was probably planted when I was quite young, sitting in junior congregation, and realizing that concentrating on the music made

the time go faster. In college, where I studied classical music (voice and piano), I got involved in the local start-up Conservative congregation, which was so small that we only had a rabbi once a month, so we all pitched in on the davening. After graduating, the rabbi at Arizona State's Hillel asked me if I would daven High Holidays for them, which I did for two years, and then started serving as the part-time cantor year-round for a couple of congregations in LA while also working full-time as the international sales manager for a music publishing company.

Four of those years in L.A., I was working with Rabbi J.B. Sacks-Rosen, with whom I was able to explore the absolute raw joy and enthusiasm of davening, of inclusiveness in the liturgy, of kavod for everybody and everything, and of creative programming on the bimah. And, as the first gay rabbi to openly seek (and obtain) a pulpit in the Conservative movement, he taught me much about courage, and the issues, struggles, and joys within the Jewish GLBT community, things which have remained close to me, and with me, since.

I decided to go to cantorial school to know more about what I was doing as a cantor. I felt limited to the specific resources in front of me. Musically, I wanted to improvise more. I also had been very influenced by a musician at Klez camp who was performing music as intercultural/interfaith work—I thought becoming a cantor would enable me to work towards making the world a better place.

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(continued on page 5)



The Rabbi's column
will return in
the next issue
of the JGF

Rabbi Angel wanted to share with you two very positive responses
to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's high holiday services:

The Chronicle Visits Tashlich

Sha'ar Zahavniks
celebrate tashlich
at Crissy Field.
This year, a
reporter from the
SF Chronicle was
there to document
our celebration
(find the link on
www.sfgate.com
for September 14,
2007, Section
B-1). Photo by
Arnold Enriquez.



A Letter from a Visitor

Dear Rabbi Angel and Congregation Sha'ar Zahav,
Being a visitor in SF looking for a synagogue where to
worship, my friend Lola Gelb helped me find you! What a
warm welcome! What a meaningful service!
I loved the Torah reading ritual! What an eloquent

drash! Thank you so much for literally embracing
newcomers.

I will carry you in my heart and make sure I go back
when in the area.

May you be blessed, may you thrive in health and joy!
In gratitude, Adela Grodzinsky :)
Todah Rabah!

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
290 Dolores Street
San Francisco CA 94103

415-861-6932 (voice)
415-861-6081 (fax)
office@shaarzahav.org (email)
<http://www.shaarzahav.org>

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is a
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Judaism, the World Congress of
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Trans-
gender Jews, and the San Fran-
cisco Organizing Project

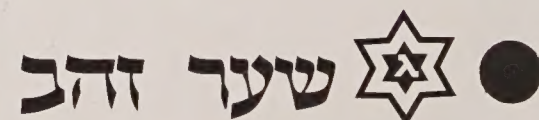
CSZ Staff

Rabbi
Camille Shira Angel (x301)
• rabbianangel@aol.com
Cantor
Sharon Bernstein
Director of Children's and
Family Education
Rebecca Weiner (x302)
• Rebecca@shaarzahav.org
Administrator
Regina Wurst (x308)
• regina@shaarzahav.org

Rabbinic Intern
Reuben Zellman (x316)
• reuben@shaarzahav.org
Rabbi's Assistant and
Membership Liason
Greg Lawrence (x310)
• greg@shaarzahav.org
Administrative Assistant
Shaun Hannan (x304)
• shaun@shaarzahav.org
Counselor
Randy Weled
• randy@shaarzahav.org

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Why You Should Plan to Attend the URJ Biennial

Ora Prochovnick



Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is not just a groundbreaking progressive queer synagogue with spiritually-moving egalitarian services, although we are all of those things. We are also an active and proud member of the Union for Reform Judaism, the congregational arm of the Reform movement in North America. During our several decades of affiliation with the Reform movement, Sha'ar Zahav has inspired growth and change within the movement, even as we have gained strength from the URJ in our own development.

Of the three major Jewish movements, the Reform movement is the most fully inclusive of LGBT people in Jewish life. As early as 1977, the movement's rabbinical organization, the Central Conference of American Rabbis passed a resolution calling for the decriminalization of homosexual acts and an end to discrimination against gays and lesbians and in 1990 the CCAR approved the ordination of openly queer rabbis. At the 1987 Biennial, the URJ (then known as the UAHC) affirmed its commitment to welcoming and including LGBT Jews in all aspects of communal life within the movement. At subsequent Biennials, beginning in 1993, the URJ passed a series of resolutions in support of civil and religious recognition of same sex unions.

These and other developments within the Reform movement, including the rewording of previously homophobic Torah commentary and creating an egalitarian liturgy—both acts which were, not so long ago, radical notions—are in no small part due to the influence of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and its current and past rabbis and members who have taken a proactive role in educating and directing change in the Reform Movement.

However, our affiliation with the URJ has resulted in so much more than creating opportunities to influence change in mainstream Judaism. As an involved member of the URJ, Sha'ar Zahav has been able to access resources to help us de-

velop and maintain a well-run spiritually-fulfilling congregation. This includes the placement services through which we were able to hire our wonderful rabbi, Camille Shira Angel, and most recently, our new cantor, Sharon Bernstein. We also receive support and guidance from the Union in many areas, such as outreach, marketing, inclusion, synagogue management, children's and adult education, and so forth. One of the many ways we are able to access this support and guidance is via attendance at the Biennial Convention.

Attendance at the URJ Biennial is open to all of our members. It is a way to discover new resources of benefit to our congregation, and of benefit to yourself, an opportunity to engage in meaningful worship, hear the latest Jewish music, and celebrate with the wider Reform community of which we are a part. If you have never had the occasion to attend Shabbat services with 5,000 other Reform Jews, this is your chance.

The 2007 URJ Biennial will be taking place in sunny San Diego, California from December 12 to 16, 2007. It will be attended by congregants, lay leaders and professionals from more than 500 congregations and 14 countries. Confirmed speakers this year include Madeleine Albright, former Secretary of State; Barry Scheck, founder of the Innocence Project; Ruth Messinger, president of the American Jewish World Service; Eugene Borowitz, learned HUC professor; and Rabbi Eric Yoffie, delivering the URJ presidential sermon. Do not miss this opportunity to hear award-winning musicians, participate in inspiring workshops, study with noted thinkers and scholars, experience Shabbat, and to help set the course for the future of the Reform Movement.

If you are interested in attending, brochures and registration packets are available in the synagogue lobby. You may obtain more information or register online at the URJ Biennial website, <http://biennial.urj.org>.

Va'ad Members

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Jewish Gaily Forward

Editor: Jo Ellen Green Kaiser
(jgkaiser@earthlink.net)

Contributing Editors: Rebecca Weiner (education); Shaun Hannon (donations, sponsorships) and Greg Lawrence (naches, lifecycle)

Editorial Committee: Karen Schiller, Jonathan Williamson, Nina Wouk, Naomi Zingman-Daniels. Please join us at CSZ the first Tuesday of each month—all welcome!

Design and Layout: Jonathan Wieder
(design@JonathanWieder.com)

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What's Up at Sha'ar Zahav!

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will honor this day. Stay tuned for the location of this special service.

Chanukah Synaplex Shabbat Friday, December 7–Saturday, December 8

Please join us for an exciting weekend of Chanukah and Shabbat. Visit our website for a schedule of this weekend's events.

CSZ-SFOP Committee Meeting Thursday, November 8, 7:00–8:30 pm

It is one of the central religious obligations in Judaism; pursue justice. Come help us take the next steps to continue to make history in San Francisco with our work on increasing access to health care. For more information, contact Josh Weisman at josh@sfop.org.

Come One, Sing All with the CSZ Chorus!!!

Monday, November 5 and

December 3, 7:00–9:00 pm

Shabbat Chanukah service,
Friday night December 7

Calling all our members who love to sing!! The CSZ Chorus begins its Chanukah rehearsal season. Musical background is not necessary—the only requirement to join the chorus is your commitment to being at the rehearsals and the Chanukah service. For more information: reuben@shaarzahav.org, or (415) 861-6932 ext. 306.

Queer Interfaith Couples Workshop Finding God in the Heart of the Other: The Queerness of Interfaith Relationships

November 28 7:00-9:00 pm

How do we experience ourselves and our partners as the Other, and how does that influence boundaries, identity, and intimacy? In this workshop, led by Karen Lee Erlichman, MSS, LCSW, we will explore ways in which LGBTQ interfaith relationships offer possibilities and pathways for connecting more deeply to our spirituality, to God, and with each other. The cost of this class is \$18 per couple for

members, \$25 for non-members. For the entire series: \$50/\$70. Please visit our website for information on the second and third installments of this course.

Choosing Judaism

A discussion group facilitated by Rose Katz and Andrew Ramer
5 Mondays, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
starting November 12

This class will explore issues that arise for people who are considering, or are in the process of, converting to Judaism. Topics will include questions of identity, community, and family. People who have recently completed the conversion process but would like to connect with a group to discuss these issues are also welcome. This class is not an introduction to Judaism, but rather a place to ask questions, discuss concerns, and talk about issues with others who are also on this journey. Participants must have met at least once with Rabbi Angel prior to enrolling in this class. Class dates are November 12, December 10, January 7, February 11, and March 17.



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Contact David Gellman

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JGF: I didn't realize that this social justice element was so strong in your work.

It isn't, but it's part of what brought me into cantorial work. I had to rethink everything when I went to an inter-faith/intercultural retreat in Jerusalem. I tried to teach the simplest niggun/melody I knew, but while people from other backgrounds loved it, they couldn't easily learn it. It wasn't the communal bridging experience that I had expected. I realized then that music is as culturally-based as everything else, that the element of predictability that makes music accessible to us depends on the sounds, melodies, and rhythms we've been exposed to in our lives. What is easy for me may not be easy for someone from a different culture.

I also realized that when people don't have enough food to eat, singing melodies is not what they need most. I still have a strong pull towards social justice, but I feel I need to figure out how it will be incorporated into my work.

JGF: That is an interesting comment about how music that is unfamiliar is hard to learn. For converts and those without a strong Jewish upbringing, mastering Hebrew prayers can be difficult.

I don't think anyone can *master* the prayers. I want to keep struggling with them. Once you have them mastered, what do you do with them?

Prayer does serve as a connection with the past, but it also impels us to search for the connection between what is happening inside ourselves, in the world around us, and on that page.

JGF: You certainly don't seem satisfied with only singing what is familiar. Most people don't usually think of Italian and Yiddish in the same thought, but you are interested in both.

I fell in love with Yiddish through the songs, which are so full of life, stories, beautiful poetry, messages that are important to me and that I want to transmit.

I first fell in love with Italian when I was starting singing opera (La Boheme, when I was 12). Later, when I was doing international sales, I had cus-

Prayer does serve as a constant reminder of the past, but it also impels us to search for the connection between what is happening inside ourselves, in the world around us, and on that page.

tomers in Italy, so I took the opportunity to learn Italian. Some years later, I met my husband, who is Italian and a scholar of Italian-Jewish music. So that's where the Italian and Jewish part came together. Italian-Jewish culture is amazing—an extraordinary body of liturgy, ritual, and customs.

JGF: Is it Ashkenazic?Sephardic? Different?

Yes. Italy is a melting pot. Some Jews came to Italy before the Common Era. Others came after the expulsion from Spain. More came down from northern Europe. There was even a small group that followed a ritual developed in southern France.

JGF: You must enjoy that kind of mixing—

I took advantage of the years I lived in Jerusalem to spend time at the Fonoteca, the National Sound Archives, where they have been methodically recording every aliyah, every group that comes to Israel, before the musical traditions became assimilated, watered down. You can listen to everything there.

JGF: Some people will say, "but I like the familiar melodies because they are comforting."

I understand that. Some prayers are melody magnets, like "Adon Olam" or "L'cha Dodi." I think people tend to be more open to different melodies for those. People are attached to particular melodies for other prayers, like the High Holy Day prayers, and don't like to change. One thing I like to do is find prayers for which a melody doesn't exist at the congregation, and/or people don't have a melody they like—that's where I can introduce people to something new.

JGF: Like our Ladino Ein Keloheinu melody.

Yes, I heard that and was so excited.

JGF: You also write music.

It started back when I was living in Los Angeles and looking for a "Hashkiveinu" that was less formal than I felt the text to warrant. The prayer feels more like a lullaby to me, so I wrote music to fit that feeling. Since then I have occasionally had openings where music comes in.

JGF: That fits into CSZ because many of our congregants write new prayers.

That's one of the things I'm very excited about in the congregation. I love liturgy, and innovative liturgy, and have been particularly wanting to work on women's liturgy, finding out what has been done with that in the Reform Movement and at Sha'ar Zahav, and helping to bring both traditional and modern women's voices to the siddur.

Sha'ar Zahav is very participatory and many people are still wondering what it will be like to have a cantor on the bimah. What will be your cantorial role in a participatory shul?

I've always been drawn to highly participatory congregations. I see my role as much as a facilitator and mentor as a prayer leader. I am interested in helping other people lead. How that happens is going to need to develop over time, as we see what works.

Through this whole process, I've found myself very moved by the community as a whole and the individuals I've met. It's a very inspiring and inspired group of people.

Coming here feels to me like entering a sandbox. We are all going to get together and see what we can build and what we can play with. I think it's going to be lots of fun—and very beautiful.

Pinat Yeladim U'mishpachah

Children and Family Corner



Family Calendar

TOT SHABBAT

November 17, 10:30 am

December 15, 10:30 am

For families with children ages 2 to 5. Celebrate Shabbat through music, art, prayer and fun! For more information contact Rebecca Weiner at 415-861-6932 x302 or rebecca@shaarzahav.org.

"FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!"

November 2, 6:00-7:00pm

Bring yourselves and your favorite grownups and celebrate Shabbat with us. Monthly Family Shabbat Service designed for children 0-6 years meets the first Friday of each month. Pizza provided, but please bring a vegetarian dish to share. If you wish to sponsor a future FNL dinner, please contact the synagogue office.

CHANUKAH SYNAPLEX SHABBAT

Friday December 7-

Saturday December 8

Please join us for an exciting weekend of Chanukah and Shabbat. Visit www.shaarzahav.org for more details.

FAMILY KABBALAT SHABBAT

Friday, November 16, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Friday, December 21, 6:30-7:30 pm

Bring in Shabbat with community, blessings, food and song. Families with children of all ages are encouraged to come. Dinner is vegetarian potluck; please bring a dish to share. No RSVP required. For more information contact Rebecca Weiner at rebecca@shaarzahav.org or 415-861-6932 x302.

Letter from the Director of Children and Family Education

Rebecca Weiner

Shalom Families,

Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer has gotten off to a terrific start and I am having a wonderful time getting to know all of you and working with your children.

I was so pleased to see how many of you stayed to meet our fabulous teachers. We are truly blessed with dedicated, knowledgeable, warm and wonderful teachers.

As we are just starting off 5768 together, I thought this would be an excellent time to remind you again about all the ways you can deepen your involvement with Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer.

As the year has progressed, I have been so impressed with watching the Galim Limudim in action. For adults to share teachings with Jewish classrooms is both as old as time (it wasn't always a rebbe who would be at the helm of a yeshiva) and truly progressive and innovative. In most modern Jewish education settings, parents make Hamatashen, shlepp snacks etc. (which are all great things, don't get me wrong!). However, involving parents in classroom teaching is different and groundbreaking. I had the opportunity to sit in on a Galim meeting and it turned out to be one of my most meaningful teaching and learning experiences of 5768 thus far. What better example can we set for our children then showing them how much we love to learn, how much we value learn-

ing, and how enthusiastic we are about the things that they are learning? This year the program is enriched even further by the role that Kendra Lubalin is playing in helping to assist and support the Galim (see page 13). I hope as you are planning your lives, that you will examine your schedules and see if you can squeeze out some time to participate in this incredible program.

Another area where your involvement would be such a mitzvah is as a bat/bar mitzvah tutor. This is a larger commitment, but one that I think is well worth it. This summer, after years of being a Jewish educator, I spent some time leading a group of thirteen year olds through their bar/bat mitzvah process. I had forgotten how intimate and meaningful this process is. I promise that if you take on this commitment, you will be so glad that you did (and you will have a student and family that are forever in your debt).

If either of these activities seem like they would have appeal to you, please find your way to a phone, email, walkie-talkie, text message etc. and let me know that you are on board.

I can't wait to see you at Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer and our Community-Wide Havdallah program!!!

B'shalom,
Rebecca

BEIT SEFER DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, November 10

Saturday, November 17

Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer meets at the Community-Wide Havdallah 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Wednesday, November 21

Saturday, November 24

Wednesday, December 5

Friday, December 7

Friday, December 8

Saturday, December 15

Saturday, December 29

Celebration of Learning-Holiness

No Beit Sefer in the Morning!

No Beit Sefer-Thanksgiving Break

No Beit Sefer-Thanksgiving Break

We will have class (First Night of Chanukah)

Chanukah Celebration 6:00-6:45

Chanukah Dinner and Oneg-6:45-8:00

Beit Sefer-led Services

No Beit Sefer—Winter Break

Now Introducing ...September and October's B'nei Mitzvah!

BAT MITZVAH OF NAOMI ZINGMAN-DANIELS



On Saturday, September 29 (Shabbat Chol Ha-Mo'ed Sukkot) Naomi Zingman-Daniels was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah. Her Torah portion includes the Thirteen Attributes of Adonai, which may be familiar to many from High Holy Day services; her Haftarah is from Ezekiel and includes the somewhat less familiar and definitely stranger Gog and Magog.

Naomi lives in Oakland and is an eighth-grade student at The Athenian Middle School in Danville. She is a practitioner and teacher in Poekoelan Tjimindie Tulen, a rare and beautiful form of Indonesian martial arts. Naomi loves speaking Spanish and traveling; she hopes to travel in Spanish-speaking countries in high school and college.

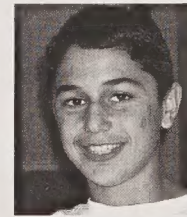
Naomi's other passions include art, reading nearly anything she gets her hands on, singing, and writing stories, novels and articles.

Naomi would like to thank all her teachers. Reuben Zellman and Joel Siegel, her East Bay Kadimah/Beit Sefer teachers, have both given her tons of inspiration, laughter, music, and good times. Naomi got a great start with her first mentor, Chanah Harei-Or, and is hugely grateful to her mentor Ray Bernstein. Both of them helped her along the road to becoming a bat mitzvah and became good friends along the way. And, finally, Naomi thanks her parents and sister for encouragement, love, and help. And for putting up with her wackiness.

Naomi hopes that you will participate in her "Dolls for Darfur" campaign to raise awareness to help the victims of the genocide in Darfur. You can find out about the campaign, and see how you can help, by going to [http://dolls-for-](http://dolls-for-darfur.net)

[darfur.net](http://dolls-for-darfur.net). Naomi is proud to announce that the dolls that have been donated to the campaign will be displayed at the Rockridge Branch of the Oakland Public Library in October 2007.

MAX MALAKOFF



Max Malakoff celebrated becoming a bar mitzvah at CSZ on Saturday, September 8.

Max is in eighth grade at Herbert Hoover Middle School, where he attends the Spanish bilingual program. He is a good student and a talented musician. He played violin for four years, plays drums in his school's concert band, and is now taking piano lessons. He loves math and the sciences. He also loves track and field, and his favorite event is the 200-meter run. In his spare time he enjoys listening to I-tunes; shopping for clothes and future cars; and pestering his little brother, Ben, and older sister, Nina.

For his mitzvah project this past year, Max participated in Jewish Family and Children's Services' (JFCS) Team Tzadek. Some of the mitzvot that Max and other participants performed included making and delivering Chanukah baskets to residents at a Jewish assisted living facility; preparing and delivering meals to chronically ill, home-bound individuals; and working in a "Rebuilding Together" project to clean and beautify a low-income senior's garden.

Max would like to thank Rabbi Angel, all the teachers, directors, and staff at Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer for providing him with the foundation for his Jewish education over the past six years. He also thanks his bar mitzvah mentor, Harold Zable, and the many other CSZ service leaders who helped him prepare for his bar mitzvah. He hopes to move on to the rabbi's post-b'nei mitzvah class next year.

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really means!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 20 Cheshvan	2 21	3 22
				6:30 pm Ma'ariv	6:00 pm Friday Night Live 8:15 pm Shabbat Service	9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 11:50 am Lunch n'Sing n'Learn
4	23 5	24 6	25 7	26 8	27 9	28 10
6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Beginning Hebrew	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Chorus rehearsal	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Torah From the Beginning	6:30 pm Ma'ariv	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm SFOP meeting	7:30 pm Saging of the Aging Synaplex Shabbaton Shabbat Service	9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 11:50 am Lunch n'Sing n'Learn
11	1 Kislev 12	2 13	3 14	4 15	5 16	6 17
6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Beginning Hebrew	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Chorus rehearsal	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Torah From the Beginning	6:30 pm Ma'ariv	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 6:45 pm Va'ad Meeting	6:30 pm Family dinner 7:30 pm Transgender Remembrance Shabbat Service	9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 10:30 am Tot Shabbat 1:00 pm Jay Michaelson 6:00 pm Community-Wide Havdalah
18	8 19	9 20	10 21	11 22	12 23	13 24
2:00 pm Women's Chavurah Arts and Crafts 6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Beginning Hebrew	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Chorus rehearsal	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service	6:30 pm Ma'ariv	Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	7:30 pm Shabbat Service Office Closed	9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 11:50 am Lunch n'Sing n'Learn
25	15 26	16 27	17 28	18 29	19 30	20
6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Beginning Hebrew	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Chorus rehearsal	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Torah From the Beginning	6:30 pm Ma'ariv 7:00 pm Queer Interfaith Workshop	6:30 pm Ma'ariv	7:30 pm Shabbat Service	

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
												21 Kislev	
												World AIDS Day 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service 11:50 am Lunch n'Sing n'Learn	

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In memory of Benjamin Blutstein.

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In honor of Paul Cohen's 60th birthday.

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In honor of Ron Edelman.

In appreciation of Kol Nidre.

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Rena Frantz & Ora Prochovnick

In honor of Alan Gordon for his support of Shayna.

In honor of Steve Elman's 60th birthday.

In memory of Susan Weiss.

In memory of Daniel Lahn.

Avraham Giannini

In memory of Mary Lou Giannini.

Robert Gutterman

In honor of Paul Cohen for his dedication to CSZ and for his sermon during Yom Kippur.

Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tannenbaum

In memory of Edward Ingersoll & Enders Ingersoll.

In memory of Viola Ingersoll.

In memory of Frank Hyman.

In memory of Eva Dorf.

In memory of Irene Ogus' Oscar.

In appreciation of Marianne Balin and Manny Fishman's coordination of the High Holidays appeal.

In appreciation of Lydia Zinn and Tim Cassidy's first High Holidays coordination.

Sheryl Kane

Elizabeth Katz

In memory of Dorothy Katz.

Deena Lahn

In memory of Anita Lahn.

In memory of Daniel Lahn.

In memory of Jean Schroeder.

Jordan Levitin & Carol Levitin

In memory of Carol's brother, Frank Hyman.

Ron Lezell

In honor of Walter Leiss.

In honor of Paul Cohen.

Marc Lipschutz

In memory of Enders Ingersoll.

In memory of Carol Kaplan.

In memory of Susan Weiss.

Donald Marans

In honor of Rabbi Camille Angel.

Leslie Miessner

In memory of Kurt & Recha Wertheimer.

Ron & Ruth Miguel

In memory of Susan Weiss.

George Mintzer

In memory of Harry Opal.

In memory of Isaac Mintzer.

Mark Oliver & Steve Polsky

In honor of Will Garcia's Welcoming into the Covenant.

Jeffrey Rubin

In memory of Susan Weiss

In memory of his cousin, Shira Levin, on her yahrzeit.

Lea Salem & Elizabeth Ochs

In memory of Susan Weiss.

Sharyn Saslafsky

In memory of Gladys Inlander.

Karen Schiller

In honor of the Fundraising Committee.

Craig Shear

In memory of Susan Weiss.

Shiloh, Miguel and Ben-Or Families

In honor of Todd Blair.

Sinai Memorial Chapel

In support of CSZ.

Fred & Irene Tanenbaum

In memory of Alex Ingersoll's uncle, Enders Ingersoll.

Robert Tat

In honor of Steve Elman's 60th birthday.

Susan Tubbesing

In memory of her aunt, Doris Bezman.

In memory of Enders Ingersoll.

In memory of Susan Weiss.

In memory of her grandmother, Laura Bezman.

Jon Uytterlinde

In honor of Steve Elman's 60th birthday.

Lonnie Weiss

In honor of Shayna Prochovnick's bat mitzvah.

In memory of Jackie Weiss.

In memory of Helene Blau.

In memory of Susan Esther Weiss.

In memory of Betty Edelman.

In memory of Carol Kaplan.

In memory of Daniel Lahn.

Randall Weiss

In memory of his mother, Susan Esther Weiss.

In honor of Cantor Sharon Bernstein.

Rebecca Wieder

In memory of Dorothy Schrank.

Michael Zimmerman

In memory of Gladys Inlander.

Eva Zysman

In memory of her son, Dr. Andrew Zysman.

HIGH HOLIDAY DONATIONS

Roy Bateman

Harold & Inez Cohen

In appreciation of the High Holidays.

Peggy Cooper

Helene Dannenberg

In appreciation of the High Holidays with CSZ.

Leonie Darwin

Jerome Goldstein

Adela Gorodzinsky

In honor of CSZ.

Judith Huerta

In honor of CSZ with Rabbi Angel at the spiritual helm.

Sarah Karpman

Janet Klein & Lisa DiGirolamo

Walter Leiss

Diane Rosen

Dorothy Slattery & Charles Kleiman

Charles Spiegel

Sam Thal

Anita Weissberg

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGE 5767

Eileen Levy & Jay Dicker

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGE 5768

Peter Allen

In memory of Stewart Telfer and Michael Botkin.

Jessie Ap'neva & Nina Wouk

Aaron Belkin

Dan Bellm

Wayne Bender

Allan Berenstein

Paul Berger

Robert Bernardo

Marsha Blachman

Sue Bojdak & Debra Yates

Helen Bruno & Kevin Stein

Patricia Caplan & Jonathan Siminoff

Kelley Clements

Robert Cohen

Arthur Cohen

Paul Cohen & Robert Gutterman

Aaron Danzig

Flavio Epstein

Bonnie Fenton

Dennis & Peggy Frank

Rebecca Freund

Jonathan Funk

Steven Gaynes

Jerome Geffner

Avraham Giannini

Joan Goldman

Tova Green

Lawrence Helman

Rebecca Kaplan & Astraea Davidson

Rose-Anne Katz

Robert Katz

Ida Kuluk

Katrina Kuzniuk

Ron Lezell

Jeffrey Lilly

Marc Lipschutz

Mark Mackler

Leslie Miessner

In memory of Kurt & Recha Wertheimer.

Florence & Steven Nacamulli

Irene Ogus

Jeffrey Rubin

Carol Russak

Sharyn Saslafsky

Michael Starkman

David Stein & Bill Stewart

Miriam Trentman & Robert Morelli

In memory of Margaret & Harry Trentman.

In memory of Elizabeth Morelli.

Michael Tyler & Amy Schustack

Lonnie Weiss

Randy Weled

Larry Wexler

Regina Wurst

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Anonymous

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EDUCATION FUND

Kelly Cytron

In honor of Shayna Prochovnick and Sophie Macks for joining the CEB committee.

Ellen Klutznick

In honor of Debbie Levy.

Eileen Levy & Jay Dicker

In honor of Jonah Levy's move to NY to pursue his music career.

Iris Malakoff

In appreciation of Rabbi Angel, staff and teachers of CSZ on the occasion of the bar mitzvah of Max Malakoff.

Max Strassfeld & Stefan Lynch

Michael Tyler & Amy Schustack

In memory of Paula Schwartz, stepmother of Judy Schwartz.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Steven Berlin & Edward Schultz

In honor of Rabbi Angel.

Rose Katz

Ellen Klutznick

In honor of Debbie Levy.

Eileen Levy & Jay Dicker

In appreciation of the rabbi for officiating at their wedding.

Mark Mackler

In honor of Ron Edelman.

In memory of Gladys Inlander.

Janice Phillips

In honor of the High Holidays.

Michael Tyler & Amy Schustack

In memory of Seymour Lawrence, grandfather of Greg Lawrence.

RABBI JULIUS & PEARL FUNK

MUSICAL EVENT FUND

Mark Blecher

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

James Carlson

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

In memory of Jan Tuzzolino.

In memory of Susan Weiss.

Aaron Danzig

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Marcia & Barnet Eskin

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Jason Feinberg

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Paul Fishman, Michael Kurokawa and

Danny Fishman-Engel

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Pat Fore & David Stewart

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Jonathan Funk

In honor of Ron Edelman's 50th anniversary of his bar mitzvah.

In memory of Joseph Wiseman.

Joel & Melody Funk

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Marcia Gittes & Daniel Funk

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Nina Gordon & April Stinson

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Brian & Susan Kheel

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Kipp Leyser

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Dale Petros

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Joshua Taylor

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Susan Unger & Pamela Erwin

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

Steve Weitz

In honor of Jonathan Funk's 50th birthday.

In honor of Steve Elman's 60th birthday.

In memory of Susan Weiss.

RAINBOW FUND 5767

Andrew & Michele Williamson

RAINBOW FUND 5768

Lonnie Weiss

RITUAL FUND

Barrett Brick & Antonio Ruffini

Naches

Yishar koach to **Richard Rothman** who was recently appointed by the SF Board of Supervisors to represent CSZ's district on the SF Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee.

A very big yishar koach to **Rabbi Elliot Kukla**, who authored a blessing for gender transitioning that was published in *Kulanu*—the Reform movement's LGBT inclusion manual. A copy of *Kulanu* is here in the CSZ office and the recent JTA article on this publication can be viewed on our bulletin board.

Yishar koach to **Steve Weitz** on his new position at Abbott Laboratories as Manager of Learning and Development. Here Steve will be responsible for the assessment and delivery of employee/leadership learning and development programs. His main focus will be working with the Abbott Diabetes Care division based in Alameda.



Life Cycles

Mazel tov to the **Zable Family** on the naming of Chris and Harold's twin daughters, Rebecca Louise (Rivka) and Michelle Esther (Michal), on Saturday, August 4.

Mazel tov to **Will Garcia** on his official welcoming into the Jewish covenant, which took place, Friday, August 10.

A happy silver anniversary to **Niki and Richard Rothman**, who celebrated 25 years of being happily married on August 15.

Mazel tov to **Kimberly and Jared Boigon**, on the naming of their daughter, Maren Louisa Boigon, as Meira, this past Shabbat.

Mazel tov to **Bille Mandel and Ryan Buchholz**, who were married on Saturday, August 18.

Mazel tov to **Steve Berlin and Ed Schultz**, who were married Sunday, August 19.

Mazel tov to **Mark Lipman and Helen Cohen** on their auf ruf on Friday, September 7.

Mazel tov to **Steve Schumacher** on his welcoming into the Jewish covenant on Friday, September 7.

Mazel tov to **Andrew Ramer** on the punctuation of the most recent chapter of his life, as he leaves his job and embarks into the vast, rewarding ocean of self-employment.

Mazel tov to **Max Malakoff** and his family on Max's becoming a bar mitzvah on Saturday, September 8.

Thank You

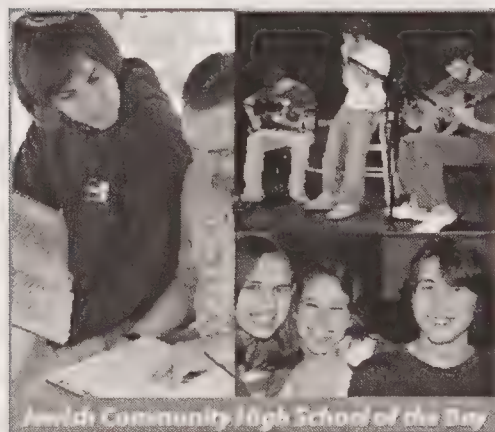
A very big THANK YOU to all of our members who prepared for and showed up to make our CSZ open house a huge success. We could not have built all the bridges that we did were it not for your continued efforts!

Thank you to all the CSZ volunteers who helped to make this 5768 High Holiday season a success!

Rabbi Around Town

In late September, **Rabbi Angel** participated in a press conference with California Faith For Equality. She and other clergy spoke in support of the freedom for all people to marry.

In early October Rabbi Angel traveled to NYC to participate in a Bikkur Cholim training. If you or someone you know at CSZ is in need of community support as they heal, whether it's with cooking, cleaning, errands, a ride to the doctor's, coming over with a movie and popcorn, or simply a friendly phone call or if you would like to provide this kind of support, please contact **Greg Lawrence** in the office so he can set you up with (or that you can become) one of our many fabulous Bikkur Cholim volunteers: 415-861-6932 x303, greg@shaarzahav.org.



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Innovating at Sha'ar Zahav: November 16-17

On Shabbat Vayetzei, November 16-17, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will be holding a truly diverse set of services and events, reflecting the diversity of our congregation. During this 25 hour period you will be able to engage in social justice and civil rights work; Torah study and theological innovation; and intergenerational learning—all with a LGBTZ emphasis.

Friday 7:30 pm, November 16

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Since 1999, November 20 has been set aside in cities across the country as Transgender Day of Remembrance. This day memorializes those who have been killed due to anti-transgender hatred. High rates of murder and other violence continues to be one of the most critical issues facing our transgender communities; and more and more people, trans and non-trans, are raising their voices in commemoration and protest.

At CSZ, we have designated November 16 as Transgender Remembrance Shabbat. At Friday night services we will remember all who have suffered from anti-transgender violence, with special liturgy, music, drash, and the reading of names. As the CSZ community participates in the holy act of remembering, we continue to educate ourselves and to commit to further action on this critical community issue.

More information about the Day of Remembrance can be found at <http://www.gender.org/remember/day/index.html>

Saturday Afternoon, November 17 Study with Jay Michaelson

Jay Michaelson (www.metatronics.net) is the chief editor of *Zeek: A Jewish Journal of Thought and Culture* (www.zeek.net), the director of *Nehirim: GLBT Jewish Culture and Spirituality* (www.nehirim.org), and a columnist for the *Forward*. An active member of New York's "Pride in the Pulpit" project and a contributing editor of the *White Crane Journal*, Jay writes and teaches frequently on issues of sexuality and religion. His most recent books are *God in Your Body: Kabbalah, Mindfulness, and Embodied Spiritual Practice* (Jewish Lights, 2006) and *Another Word for Sky: Poems* (Lethe Press, 2007).

Jay's topic will be **The Significance of Sex: Social Order and Post-Mythic Religion**. According to our best statistics, fewer than 3% of Americans identify as gay or lesbian. Why, then, is homosexuality the moral-political issue of the moment, provoking as much heated debate as was once inspired by abortion, civil rights, and equal rights for women? How has such a small group—six million Americans, at most—come to be seen as, alternatively, a threat to our nation's social fabric, or the persecuted minority most in need of protection today? In this workshop we'll explore how debates about sexuality are actually debates about levels and modes of religion, and why changing attitudes about homosexuality may be a deeper question than we think.

Saturday 6:00 pm, November 17 Community-Wide Havdalah

The CSZ community has received a new grant, called the Legacy Heritage Innovation Project Grant, designed to create two new intergenerational learning opportunities for our community members. Kendra Lubalin, the second and third grade teacher at Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer has been brought on as the project's Coordinator and Educational Consultant and Head Teacher.

The first program is called Galim Limudim, or Learning Waves. You can find a great description of it in Education Director Rebecca Weiner's Letter on page 6 of this newsletter.

The second opportunity available to you is to come participate in our three Community Learning Havdalah programs. These are community-wide programs on a Saturday evening that offer simultaneous learning on a common curricular theme for Jews of all ages! The first event will be on November 17th from 6:00-8:00 here at CSZ, on the theme: How have issues of diversity impacted your personal journey to Judaism? Adults, families, and children will be able to learn with our lay leaders, community leaders, and leaders from other Jewish organizations who are invested in this question.

For more information on Havdalah, please contact Kendra at Kendra@shaarzahav.org

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Sponsorships

HIGH HOLIDAY SPONSORSHIPS

Our Rosh Hashanah onegs and Yom Kippur break-fast generously sponsored by **Walter Leiss**.

Bimah greenery generously sponsored by **Alex Ingersoll and Martin Tannenbaum**.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur bimah flowers generously sponsored by **Laura Lowe** in memory of her uncle, Norton Pintchuk, and by a **CSZ member** in memory of Rose Kliman Byer.

High Holiday cleaning crew generously sponsored by **Laura Lowe** in memory of Mavis Eldredge.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to our High Holiday sponsors.

AUGUST

3/4

Friday Night Live Service Generously Sponsored by **Daniel Ostrow** in memory of his father, Jon Ostrow.

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by **Joss Eldredge** In memory of her

mother, Mavis Eldredge.

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **Saul & Lea Zatz**

Grandparents of Michelle & Rebecca Zable "In joy of the miracle of twins."

Saturday Kiddush Generously Sponsored by **The Blacks—Jonathan, Toni, David, Kathryn and Matt** In honor of the naming of Michelle and Rebecca Zable.

10/11

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by **Shai, Boaz & Avi Garcia-Goldberg** In honor of Will's welcoming into the covenant.

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **Will Garcia** In honor of Sue Bojdak and Rabbi Camille Shira Angel; in gratitude for their mentorship and teaching.

Friday Childcare Generously Sponsored by **The Garcia-Goldberg Family** in blessed memory of their aunt and great-aunt, Doris Holtz z"l.

17/18

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by

Billie Mandel & Ryan Buchholz In honor of their aufruf.

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **Billie Mandel & Ryan Buchholz** In honor of their aufruf.

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

August 29 / September 1

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **Ruth Schoenbach & Lynn Eden** In memory of Uriel Schoenbach's 20th yearzeit.

SEPTEMBER

7/8

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by **Mark Lipman & Helen Cohen** In honor of their aufruf.

& **Alan Gordon & Steve Schumacher** In honor of Steve's welcoming into the covenant.

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **The Williamson Family** In honor of the bar mitzvah of Max Malakoff.

Saturday Kiddush Generously Sponsored by **The Malakoff Family** In honor of the bar mitzvah of Max Malakoff.

28/29

Friday Oneg Generously Sponsored by **The Cantor Search Committee**

Bimah Flowers Generously Sponsored by **Patricia Daniels** In honor of the bat mitzvah of her granddaughter, Naomi Zingman-Daniels.

Saturday Kiddush Generously Sponsored by **The Zingman-Daniels Family** In honor of the bat mitzvah of Naomi Zingman-Daniels.

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Condolences

We extend heartfelt condolences to the following CSZ members on the death of their loved ones:

Niki Rothman, on the deaths of her cousin, Charlotte Neuburger, and her "aunt," Mary Woodley

Steve Hauptman, on the death of his friend, Thomas Clifford, Sr.

Julie Dorf, Jenni Olson, and Hazel and Sylvie Olson-Dorf, on the death of Julie's grandmother, Eva Dorf

Tamar Gershon, and her daughter,

Eliana Gershon, on the death of Tamar's grandmother, Elsa Wilder

Susan Leff, on the death of her uncle, Jack Zuckerman

Ken Repp, on the death of his two aunts, Lucille Repp and Marie McKinney

Dan Bellm, on the death of his friend, the poet, writer, and prophetic voice for peace & justice, Grace Paley

Nancy Meyer, on the death of her aunt, Hannah Meyer

Judy Schwartz, on the death of her stepmother, Paula Schwartz

Greg Lawrence, on the death of his grandfather, Seymour Lawrence

Richard Inlander, on the death of his mother, Gladys Inlander

David Wasserman, on the death of his aunt, Estelle Bornstein

Jackie Wong, on the death of her uncle, William Wong

Mary Schroeder, Deena Lahn, and Harold and Isabel Lahn-Schroeder, on the death of Mary's mother, Jean Schroeder

Steve Wiesner, on the death of his cousin, Eugene Kohn

Patricia Lin, on the death of her aunt, Jean Pan

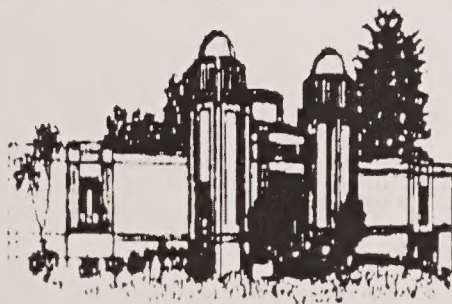
Member Yahrzeits

NOVEMBER

- 3 Forrest Kincade
- 4 Michael Freedland
- 7 Donald Albert
- 11 Bruce Apter
- 11 Sidney Rosenthal
- 16 Chuck Norton
- 22 Tristano Palermino

DECEMBER

- 4 Marilyn O'Keeffe
- 9 Isa Leah Cymrot-Wu
- 18 David Glassberg
- 20 Norman David Kramer
- 21 Walter Palmer
- 22 Elijah Michael Silverrod MacLachlan
- 28 Phyllis Mintzer
- 29 Allan Craig



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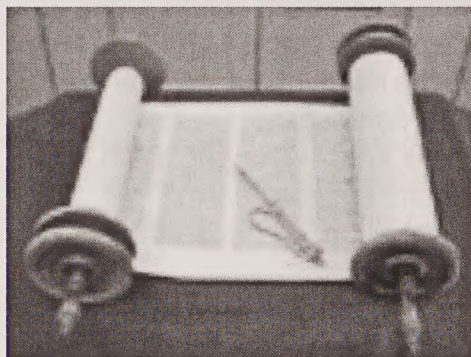
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